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been much scarcer, and that the war in Spain and the progress of the railways are among the causes productive of this effect.

The remaining papers, which are not so nearly allied to Statistics, consist of an article on "Professional" (or Practical) "Mathematics," by Professor De Morgan; "An Examination of Lord Brougham's Bill for Promoting Education," by Mr. Duppa; "A Review of Physiology in Connection with Education," by Dr. King; "Suggestions for the Education of Young Ladies of small Pecuniary Means," by Lady Ellis; an article on "Infant Schools for the Upper and Middle Classes," by Mrs. Porter; and an eloquent letter, by M. de Fellenberg, "On the Relation between Education and the State."

PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE MANCHESTER Society for the promotion of Statistical Enquiries was the first of the kind established in this country. In 1833 a number of gentlemen, who felt a strong desire to assist in promoting the progress of social improvement in the surrounding manufacturing population, and who had been much struck with the extreme deficiency of all accurate statistical information regarding this country, met together, and formed themselves into a society, with the view of supplying, by individual industry, some of the deficiencies which they regretted. The Society, at its first meeting on the 2d September 1833, numbered 13 members, who set to work immediately to procure accurate information on the most important matters connected with the moral and physical condition of the population in their own immediate neighbourhood.

For the more elaborate of their investigations they have employed paid agents, on whose zeal, diligence, and scrupulous fidelity they could place reliance; but their funds being very limited, much labour has fallen upon the members themselves, and the proceedings of their agents have always been sedulously superintended by Committees of the Society.

The earliest publication of the Manchester Statistical Society was an Analysis of the Evidence given before the Factory Commission, the first edition of which was rapidly disposed of. They also, in their first session, turned their attention to the important subject of the Education of the people, and have published a series of Reports, containing a minute and detailed analysis of the number and nature of the schools, of the number of scholars, and of the amount and kind of instruction given in the schools, in the five towns of Manchester, Salford, Bury, Liverpool, and York, comprising an aggregate population of nearly 600,000 individuals. One of these Reports has reached a second edition.

The Society have carried on a still more arduous enquiry, in which they employed agents to visit, from house to house, the whole of the working population in six manufacturing towns, viz., Manchester, Salford, Bury, Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield, containing more than 300,000 inhabitants; and they have lately published the results of their enquiries in a Report, which exhibits the various information obtained, in a tabular

form.* This Report was read at Liverpool in the Statistical Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, at whose meetings several of the other Reports of the Society have been presented.

A collection of miscellaneous Papers and Reports is now in course of publication, and some further original enquiries are in progress.

The Society meet eight times in the year, at intervals of a month, from October to May; and there are now upwards of 50 members.

The fact of this Society having, within the space of four years, and with a permanent income of little more than 100*l.* a year, completed seven extensive original enquiries, some of which have been prosecuted in distant towns, shews with what zeal its members have been animated, and affords both an example and an encouragement to similar societies in other places.

The Statistical Society of BRISTOL was established in November 1836, soon after the meeting of the British Association in that town, in the Statistical Section of which it may be said to have taken its rise. It consisted at first of 46 members, which number is now increased to 54, besides one life and two honorary members. There are three General Meetings in the year, besides the Annual Meeting. The income of the Society is almost wholly absorbed in an enquiry which it is prosecuting into the state of the working classes in Bristol. The first Report upon this subject was read before the Statistical Section of the British Association at Liverpool, and has since been printed in the First Annual Report of the Society.

The other enquiries in which the Society is at present engaged, are, 1st, into the number of births, deaths, and marriages within the borough from the year 1813; 2nd, into the Statistics of Hospitals; 3rd, into the Statistics of Assurance Offices in Bristol; and 4th, into the amount of Irish produce imported into Bristol. A very full enquiry into the state of education in Bristol had been completed by Mr. C. Bowles Fripp before the formation of the Society, and was read before the British Association at its meeting in that town.

At the meeting of the British Association at LIVERPOOL in 1837, Viscount Sandon, who was President of the Statistical Section, and one of the Representatives of the borough, took several opportunities of recommending the formation of a Statistical Society in that town. The suggestion was favourably received, and on the 1st of January 1838, a Society was formed, which now consists of 85 members. It is too soon to expect any important result from its labours, but Committees have been appointed to make enquiries into the following subjects:—1st, the trade between Great Britain and Ireland; 2nd, the Statistics of human life, divided into two branches—medical Statistics, or the physical condition of man, particularly of the labouring classes; and moral and educational, or social Statistics; and 3rd, criminal Statistics. The Society holds three stated General and one Annual Meeting in the year.

* This and the other publications of the Manchester Statistical Society may be purchased at Messrs. C. Knight and Co.'s, Messrs. James Ridgway and Sons', and Mr. R. H. More's, London.

The Statistical Society of ULSTER originated with some members of another Society, which was founded in 1821, under the title of the Belfast Natural History Society, and which has for its objects the cultivation of the study of natural history, and the investigation of the topography of Ireland. These gentlemen, taking advantage of a recent regulation of that body, permitting sections to be formed amongst its members for the cultivation of other branches of knowledge, agreed to form one exclusively devoted to statistical research, a subject to which the attention of some of them had been directed when attending the meetings of the British Association.

The first preliminary meeting was held on the 23d November 1837. At a subsequent meeting on the 3d February 1838, 21 members attended, when it was agreed, in consequence of the importance of the proposed subjects of enquiry, to form a distinct society, to be called the "Statistical Society of Ulster," which was finally constituted on the 29th March last, at which time 67 members had been enrolled. Eleven gentlemen have since joined, and the total number at present is 78. The first meeting of the Council was held on the 10th April, at which Committees for the investigation of the following subjects were appointed:—1st, Education; 2nd, Trade between Ireland and Great Britain; 3rd, The physical and intellectual condition of the working classes; 4th, State of Agriculture; 5th, Mechanical Power employed in Belfast and the neighbourhood. The meetings of the Society are appointed to take place on the second Friday of each month.

In our next number we hope to be able to give an account of the Glasgow, Glasgow and Clydesdale, Birmingham, and Leeds Statistical Societies, together with some others, which are now in progress of formation.

PROCEEDINGS OF STATISTICAL SOCIETIES.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

Ordinary Meeting, Monday, February 19th, 1838. Sir CHARLES LEMON, Bart., M.P., President, in the Chair.

THE Auditors' Report of the Accounts for 1837 was read.

William Campbell Gillan, Esq., was elected a Fellow of the Society.

The printed First Report of the Education Committee "on the State of Schools in Westminster" was presented. A similar Report from the Statistical Society of Manchester, "on the Schools of the City of York," and the "First Annual Report of the Proceedings of the Statistical Society of Bristol," were laid before the meeting.

It was announced that the Society recently established at Belfast had taken the title of "The Statistical Society of Ulster," in consequence of an increased interest excited on the subject, and a contemplated extension of operations; and that the Statistical Society of Liverpool, at the suggestion of this Society, had formed a Committee to investigate the state of the Trade between Great Britain and Ireland.

It was announced that a Committee had been formed by the Council "To collect a Statistical Account of the various Strikes and Combina-